

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

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O R 061133Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2529

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

SUSMISSION NATO 2063

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LIMDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL FROM CHARGE TANGUY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: NATOMIN DEC 73: SECRETARY'S BILATERAL WITH DUTCH FONMVN

REF: HAGUE 5343

1. IT IS CLEAR FROM REMARKS TO ECON COUNSELOR TODAY BY SENIOR MFA AND MINECON OFFICIALS THAT VAN DER STOEL WILL INDEED RAISE QUESTION OF US OIL ASSISTANCE TO NETHS IN HIS BILATERAL WITH SECRETARY DEC 9. WHILE HE WILL PRESUMABLY NOT ATTEMPT TO GET INTO MODALITIES OR TIMING OF SUCH AID, WE EXPECT HIM TO SEEK REASSURANCE THAT SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITIES OF OIL WILL BE FORTHCOMING IF AND WHEN NEEDED AND THAT UNDER SECRETARY DONALDSON WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS DETAILS DURING HIS VISIT HERE.

2. WHILE GON IS NOT YET PREPARED TO SAY SO PUBLICLY FOR FEAR OF
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LOCAL PANIC, CRUDE SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR DUTCH REFINERIES IS BLEAK.

BY FEB 1 THROUGHPUT EXPECTED TO RANGE FROM ABOUT 70 PERCENT OF CAPACITY IN CASE OF TEXACO AND MOBIL TO 15 PERCENT IN CASE OF CHEVRON, WITH WEIGHTED AVERAGE FOR ALL SEVEN OF ABOUT 50 PERCENT. NORMAL SUPPLEMENTARY IMPORTS OF NAPHTHA FOR PETROCHEMICALS INDUSTRY EXPECTED TO DRY UP ALMOST ENTIRELY.

3. WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS SEE DEC 17-18 AS OPTIMUM TIMING FOR DONALDSON VISIT BUT THEY WILL CHECK THIS OUT WITH MINISTERS VAN DER STOEL AND LUBBERS THIS EVENING. WE WILL CABLE OUTCOME WHEN ASCERTAINED.
TANGUY

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